

C.E.R.D.H.**
Center of Study and Reflexion on
Human Destiny

URANTIA* Book Study Group

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THE LETTER

"By the spirit fruits of your lives impels souls to believe the truth that man is a son of God, and that all men are brethren" (193-5-2)

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EDITORIAL

When we see the world struggling with its problems and trying to solve them through violence who would not agree with Abd-ru-shin, in « in the Light of Truth » in the chapter on wrong courses, writes : « With few exceptions, mankind labour under a boudless delusion which is fatal for them ! « But this delusion may apply to other fields such as the man-woman relationship; and, may be it is an integral part of that darkness Abd-ru-shin tells us about in the chapter intitled « What separates so many from the Light today ? « . « Like deepest night, ethereal darkness lies spread over this earth. »

When confronted with such despondency how comforting it is to become aware of divine love ans its corollary human love .

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** C.E.R.D.H. a non-profit association, getting together readers of the URANTIA Book.

MEDITATION

Love dream

What does the prince charming represent to the young girl ?
What does the ideal fiancée represent to the young man ?

An ever present company who forever will mean :

- A sense of belonging.
- A perfect understanding of each one's personality, in every phase of its expression, even the most secret.
- A total trust, complete faithfulness; being one with.
- A constant availability.
- A sense of total security which brings peace of heart and a blooming of happiness and serenity.
- etc

Let us search for " where do these wonderful yearnings come from ? "

If the urge to mate is an organic impulse, an animal instinct,

the need to love is of an altogether different nature, it is a soul impulse urging us to strive for authentic love (made of beauty, truth and goodness) for the person to whom we are attracted.

Doesn't the young man who falls in love, project these three values on the young woman who has seduced him, convincing himself that she is the most beautiful, that everything she says is true and that she has a heart of gold....a love dream so charming and often so short lived, but which indicates nevertheless a step in the right direction.

And the same applies to the young woman who goes through this process with like results. This need for perfection is innate - it is the response to the Universal Father supreme order : " Be you perfect, even as I am perfect " (21 3) This divine exhortation has been carried down even to lowly animal origin creatures.

Accordingly, on one hand:

P.737 - §2 There is original endowment of adaptation in living things and beings. In every living plant or animal cell, in every living organism—material or spiritual—there is an insatiable craving for a constant and ever increasing perfection of

environmental adjustment, organismal adaptation, and augmented life realization. These interminable efforts of all living things evidence the existence within them of an innate striving for perfection.

On another hand :

Our Father sent a fragment of Himself to dwell the human mind as a spiritual private teacher, this " true light which lights every man who comes into the world "; also called " divine spark ", " divine guide " ? This is our " Thought Adjuster ".

Are not *these wonderful yearnings* of teenagers inspired by this indwelling divine spirit ? He is the only one who can fulfill these wants, because he knows all about the person of his indwelling, he has been fully instructed on the mental characteristics and as to the way best suited to stimulate this mortal's spiritual education. He loves his betrothed divinely and his fondest hope is to fuse with this personality for eternity

The Thought Adjuster is the realization of the love dream of adolescence.

Twice, on television, I have been witness to this human love for God .

On January 12, 1994, on channel 2, when Gildas the hermit, said : " Most humans only live on the periphery of themselves. Death is not the tragedy, the tragedy is that a man can die without any idea or the slightest experience of the unbelievable worth to be found in the depth of himself. "

On May 17, 1994, Mireille Nègre said : " I love someone, I love God and I can testify that God has been present in my flesh. I have felt him in my flesh, in my body as a whole. God is alive in me. He is alive in you, He is alive in everyone. I see Him live, and that is no abstraction..."

But, let us remember that we all will actualize our love dream with our divine guide, rarely during this life, but generally in the after- life. Then will we forever be one with He who knows everything.

It behooves us therefore, in order to get closer to this perfect guide, to cultivate perfection in all our attitudes - Therefore, to approach this divine guide, it pertains to us to look for perfection throughout our actions. There, our freewill is confronted to this choice : to listen or not to listen to this little voice which, at any crossing, tells us "this is the way" - the love way - which ripens the spirit fruits which are : loving service, unselfish devotion, courageous loyalty, sincere fairness, enlightened honesty, undying hope, confiding trust, merciful ministry, unflinching goodness, forgiving tolerance, and enduring peace. (2054 C)

The kingdom of God is within you, said Jesus, and, since God is love, it is obvious that " Love is the highest motivation which man may utilize in his universe ascent. " (2096 C)

" Your motives and your decisions, your faithful determinations and your supreme desires, do constitute real and effective co-operation. " (1206 D)

" *Genuine religion is an adventure personally lived, and not easy to impart through words. It is the love story between the creature and his Creator...Finally a religion is but the outline of the way covered by a soul to her truth .* " *

" Neither Adjuster nor mortal can attain that unique goal without the full cooperation and faithful help of the other. This extraordinary partnership is one of the most engrossing and amazing of all the cosmic phenomena of this universe age " . (1238 D)

The urge to participate and belong to, which is a natural urge, lives on a whole life through : One first belongs with family, then to a mate, to a social group and to society as a whole. But even in the best of circumstances, the urge to belong is never fully satisfied.

We'd better become conscious that we exclusively belong to God only.

" in Him we all live and move and have our being. " (29 6)

Our dream in this life is nevertheless to actualize that dream with our life partner, but no human

partner can ever compete with the divine presence within, our Thought Adjuster, who individualizes our Father's love for ever - He is God.

The relations between an individual and his Adjuster are hardly comparable with the association of husband and wife:

- In the husband and wife association : The fact of loving our partner with all our senses and of feeling loved, generates a rich life, a life of intelligence, bloom and charm, in which the joy of belonging is sometimes carrying with it a fear of losing our partner, which would be considered as almost the end of life itself.

There are also some disagreements, doubts, compromises and worries...

- In the Adjuster association : The fact of loving God and of feeling loved by God is not sensual but spiritual - it is the soul which feels and loves, and mind does not..

All that mind can do is discovering, recognizing, interpreting, and *choosing*.

" All true love is from God, and man receives the divine affection as he himself bestows this love upon his fellows. Love is dynamic. It can never be captured; it is alive, free, thrilling, and always moving. Man can never take the love of the Father and imprison it within his heart. The Father's love can become real to mortal man only by passing through that man's personality as he in turn bestows this love upon his fellows. " (1289 D)

Jesus answered to John : " You will learn to love your brethren more when you first learn to love their Father in heaven more. " (1955 D)

Love is a running stream that has its source in the divine guide indwelling our mind, generating a living feeling of belonging to God - a boundless confidence - peace in mind and heart - spirit's fruits throughout our relations.

Even death has lost its negative aspect.

As we follow God's way, we live an adventure by choosing in each instant the living truth in the love of righteousness. We grow a peaceful heart as we view our life. We feel secure.

Ideal couple life

Between husband and wife, aside from their emotional interchanges, each would position himself in relation to the other as a team mate in their respective search for the indwelling divine presence; then their mutual love will grow to be stronger and more beautiful, because they will have avoided the danger of progressive disillusion from having made their mate god. To love is not to look at one another but to both look in the same direction..

Within such a couple, sexual gratification reaches its highest point because this physical communion is the climax of previous mind communion and soul communion.

"Marriage which culminates in the home is indeed man's most exalted institution, but it is essentially human; it should never have been called a sacrament...Such beliefs lead directly to the concept of the indissolubility of the marital state regardless of the circumstances or wishes of the contracting parties." (929 D)

Two pampered and spoiled youths, educated to expect every indulgence and full gratification of vanity and ego, can hardly hope to make a great success of marriage and home building - a life-long partnership of self-effacement, compromise, devotion, and unselfish dedication to child culture. (928 D)

"In so far as the social group falls short of providing marriage preparation for youths, to that extent must divorce function as the social safety valve which prevents still worse situations during the ages of the rapid growth of the evolving mores." (929 A)

"Marriage, with its manifold relations, is best designed to draw forth those precious impulses and those higher motives which are indispensable to the development of a strong character." (1776 A). This means a team effort to realize a common ideal.

Unfortunately, too many fail in this task and have to resort to make beliefs and substitutes.

"Love is the greatest relationship in the world, in the universe - just as truth is the greatest pronouncement of the observation of these divine relationship" (1615 D)

This is how "My Father in Paradise does run a universe of universes by the compelling power of his love." (1608 A)

That is why the great commandment invites us to first love God with all our heart, with all our might and all our intelligence, and then, to love our neighbour as ourselves.

Jacques Dupont - 12 Avril 1995

FOURTH INTERNATIONAL ENCOUNTER FOR URANTIA BOOK READERS

JUNE 2-5 IN "LE TEICH" (FRANCE)

Our meeting looks promising. We may very well be running full house for this special Bordeaux meeting. Let you all late comers hurry up if you don't want to be left with the « no vacancies » sign. It would be a great pity if, through sheer neglect, We could not benefit from your presence. So, we expect to meet you for the weekend of the 3rd to the 6th of June.

C.E.R.D.H.

POLL

FORMATION OF A
URANTIA ASSOCIATION

FIRST PART : THE RESULTS

DO YOU SEE ANY INTEREST IN THE FORMATION
OF A URANTIA ASSOCIATION OF READERS ?
YES : 94 %

- By a liaison bulletin such as "The LETTER" : 90 %
- By an annual meeting : 78 %

Should it be limited to your own country? 15 %
Should it be extended to others countries? 15 %
Should it include French-speaking communities?
66 %

- To uphold the URANTIA Foundation in its efforts* : 81 %
- To keep and protect the text against any attack or alteration : 72 %
- To produce translations : 84 %

WHAT SHOULD THE MAIN GOALS OF AN
URANTIA ASSOCIATION BE ?

IS THE FINANCING OF THESE ACTIVITIES TO BE
ASSURED BY :

*To facilitate the indepth study of the
teachings of the URANTIA Book* : 90 %

- Through the formation of study groups : 87 %
- Through the production of derived works : 87 %
- Through the organization of conference cycles : 75 %
- Through " Summer universities " : 63 %

- Gifts from the readers : 72 %
- Dues : 72 %
- Other financial sources : 39 %
- Are you ready to participate : 66 %

To facilitate contacts between readers : 90 %
- By communicating personal addresses
with the authorisation of the interested
parties : 78 %

DO YOU INTEND TO PARTICIPATE IN ACTIVITIES
ORGANIZED BY SUCH A "URANTIA ASSOCIATION"?
78 %

- Do you accept the I.U.A. charter? : 70 %
- Do you think it is necessary that this
association be named URANTIA? : 72 %

SECOND PART : READERS OBSERVATIONS

- Refusal to see an other Vatican or an
ecclesiastic hierachy building up.

- To allow as many truth seekers as possible
to find the truth, which can be achieved, but
only very progressively.

- The group is the place where everyone can
find fulfilment.

- Organisation of study groups by mail.

- The main task of the basic reader is rather
to be imbued by the values given by the Book
to undergo a slow but sure transformation in
his or her behaviour.

- The reading of the Book in its entirety
should be a preliminary to the integration of a
reader in a study group.

THIRD PART : GROUP STRUCTURE

The major reluctance disclosed by this poll concerns the association's structure seen in its diverse aspects .

The major error to be avoided is to stepped aside before this new Foundation, to forestructure a group. be united again with the mother organisation.

The group naturally takes form, its structure sets up proportionally to its growth, it adapts and ecologically roots in its environment. For this reason we invite all readers to meet with this unity.

Structure has to adapt to men and not men to structure. One function of the structure is to foster growth for the talents and possibilities of each individual, for the greatest benefit of individuals, groups, and the whole society.

A foreseen structure is very often in danger of failure.. The capital Brasilia rose out of a mind conception and not out of evolution as did Lutèce which became Paris... So its intellectually well thought structure has not advanced the standard evolution of that country.

The administrative obligation of a non profit organisation is to be hierarchically structured with a president, vice-president, secretary, treasurer and to declare the object of its activity.

But this official and material functioning hierarchy is totally independent of the internal circulation of ideas. The C.E.R.D.H. has been operating since 1964 and its administrative organisation is ignored by the readers. Towards the Foundation of Chicago, the C.E.R.D.H. has always been in conformity with its status.

Caligastia wrecked the first Revelation, then the second - and has failed in his attempt against the fourth Revelation. One has to be ready and wait for Caligastia to relentlessly foil this fifth Revelation.

Happily, for more than two years, Caligastia's action has been thwarted by a courageous as well as difficult intervention, the Foundation has regained the health of its

concerns the association's structure seen in first days, and our C.E.R.D.H. has naturally stepped aside before this new Foundation, to be united again with the mother organisation. For this reason we invite all readers to meet with this unity.

But this structure is only an intelligent and active mail box. It has nothing to do with directives - our only Master is Jesus, who, by His Spirit of Truth is in constant contact with our soul, and thus keeps united all who want to follow Him. This is the authentic brotherhood that we want to live and represent.

Let us follow Jesus by living the truth till the end, wherever it will lead us.

Let us live the true adventure, the outside truth like the inner truth. (Paul Emile Victor)

Let us follow Jesus by producing in every circumstance, the fruits of the spirit which are yielded in the lives of spirit born and God knowing mortals, namely :

loving service, unselfish devotion, courageous loyalty, sincere fairness, enlightened honesty, undying hope, confiding trust, merciful ministry, unfailing goodness, forgiving tolerance, and enduring peace.
(2054 C)

Jesus has come to "declare liberty to the spiritual captives". We follow Him, and our task consists through our example, in liberating the spiritual captives who are among us.

To live this vocation, it is up to each of us to cultivate our own behaviour in order to love each other as Jesus loves us...

Jesus said : " I lived my life in the flesh to show how you can, through loving service, become God-revealing to your fellow men

even as by loving you and serving you, I have become God-revealing to you. I have lived among you as the Son of Man that you, and all other men, might know that you are all indeed the sons of God. Therefore, go you now into all the world preaching this gospel of the kingdom of heaven to all men. " (2053 B)

Always we may have diversity of intellectual comprehension and interpretation, even varying degrees of socialization, but lack of spiritual brotherhood is both inexcusable and reprehensible. (1866 C)



FOURTH PART : REFLECTIONS

A great variety of readers are interested in the URANTIA Book because, for any sort of research, this Book brings a satisfactory contribution.

This Book is intended for the mind - but it is a generous food, assimilated at the same time by the mind and the soul, hence the two basic levels of readers :

- 1 - Those who limit themselves to satisfying their intellectual curiosity - who do not want (or dare not) the spiritual adventure, and for whom the fruits of the spirit are only words.

As well as those who worry is to vindicate the valor which they think they have, and want it to be accepted by others; they have been enticed by a portion of the Book, on which they have built interpretations which are only the expression of their prejudice, in this way withdrawing from the basic theme of the Book, finally isolating it from the benefice of their own personal interpretations.

- 2 - And those who in addition of the intellectual satisfaction, discover their brotherhood with Jesus, Son of Man, and decide to follow Him, producing in their life the fruits of the spirit that He produced all along His terrestrial life.

Those make up the true strong, efficient brotherhood...it is silent, patient, constructive...

Of course this spiritual level is alas, far from being reached by everyone; but the task of those who have approached it or even attained it, is to facilitate its access for those who are limited on the intellectual level; and it will be by their judgment and their patience that they will entice them to make the effort to enter the temple of which they know not the treasure.

But nobody can compel them. They only require us to be watchful, so we can maintain our course in following Jesus.

We know that it was pride which was the cause of the failure of the first Revelation and impatience the cause of the failure of the second. Here a basic teaching that the Book gives us, from which we must take, each of us, a deep and living awareness, in order to apply the results to our behaviour.

" Neither should you seek to lord it over your brethren in the kingdom. Remember, I have taught you that he who would be greatest among you should become the server of all. " (1907 B)

Here are quotations which influence the good atmosphere of our society and of the study groups.

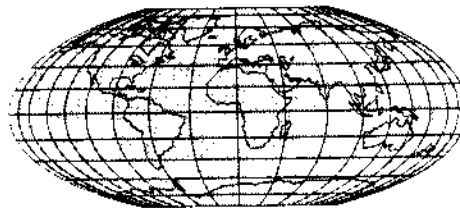
Let us add that God being spirit, the search for truth is done by the soul, through the mind.

The mind remembers, desires, wants, thinks, perceives, reasons out, appraises, but the mind does not love.

Only the soul can love. Love is the privilege of the spiritual level. God is love.

So, it is on this level that we must maintain ourselves when we gather together - it is the only level of the brotherhood.

C.E.R.D.H.



NEWS FROM :

THE UNITED STATES

By a judgement of January 1995, in the Maaherra versus URANTIA Foundation case, it appears that *the URANTIA Book* now belongs to the public domain and the URANTIA Foundation loses its former copyright on the Book. URANTIA Foundation has lodged an appeal on the grounds that this judgement is in contradiction with all former judgements. The Supreme Court of the United States will have to decide on what should be a textbook case. However, the same January judgement maintained the Foundation rights on the registered marks and the emblem of three concentric azure-blue circles. As for the translations, such as *Le Livre d'URANTIA*, they remain under the URANTIA Foundation copyright. The C.E.R.D.H., supporting as it does the copyright, expresses the utmost reserves about the consequences of the above mentioned decision.

URANTIA Foundation will sell, from June 1995, a new format of the URANTIA Book. Vinyl covered, the smaller size (6"x8") URANTIA Book will weigh about 2.6 lbs instead of the present 3.8 lbs and will therefore be easier to carry while travelling or in the public transport. 10000 copies are being issued that will have the same pagination as the former "classical" version. Coming out at the same time and in the same smaller format an exquisite version for booklovers, including leather cover and gilded edges, will be published. The profit derived from this de luxe edition will help with the financing of the present and future translations.

It is worth noting that the price is particularly attractive: US\$ 19.95 (less than FF.100) for the vinyl version and US\$ 75 for the leather version. These books will be available for the French speaking readers from the Parisian office of the Foundation.

An English audio version of the URANTIA Book is also available from the office in Paris. It is made up of 98 cassettes and is sold for FF 1.739,40.

The Spanish version, of which 5000 copies had been produced in June 1993, being nearly run out, a new and improved version is in preparation. It will be available, also in smaller format, around July. The price has also been fixed at US\$ 19.95.

The annual conference of I.U.A. (International URANTIA Association) will be held at the Vanderbilt University in Nashville U.S.A. from the 3rd to the 7th of August 1995. Information can be had from URANTIA Foundation 533 Diversey Parkway, Chicago ILL. 60614 U.S.A.

AUSTRALIA

The annual conference, known as The South Pacific Conference, which brings together readers from New Zealand and Australia will be held in New Zealand. For further information please write to Neville and Patricia TWIST P.O.Box 8809 Symonds, Auckland, New Zealand.

FINLAND

The annual conference bringing together readers from Finland, Sweden and Estonia will be held from the 9th to the 11th of June at Järvenpää, 30 km from Helsinki. For further information please phone the secretary of the Finnish Association at 358-496 561